APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/981,608	10/16/2001	Thomas E. Tahan	5181-75800	5745

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EXAMINER
BILGRAMI, ASGHAR H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2143	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
10/18/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/981,608	TAHAN, THOMAS E.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Asghar Bilgrami	2143	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>16 August 2007</u>.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-6,9-15,17-23,25-31 and 34</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1-6,9-15,17-23,25-31 and 34</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>16 October 2001</u> is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

1.   Examiner withdraws 112 first paragraph rejection based on the following

statement from the applicant on page 12 of the remarks filed on 9/18/2007.

"Applicant submits that these definitions enable one in the ordinary skill in the art to see

the similarities and differences among community sets generally and a UCS, and ACS,

and an OCS in particular, as well as enabling one of ordinary skill in the art to apply

these terms in the currently claimed invention."

2.   In light of the amendments made by the applicant examiner withdraws 112

second rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4.   Claims 1-6, 9-15, 17-23, 25-31 & 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as

being unpatentable over Miller (U.S. 5,265,221) and Belani et al (U.S. 6,772,350).

5.   As per claims 1, 10, 18 & 26 Miller disclosed a computer system comprising: a

Multi-community Node (MCN) comprises: a community information base (CIB), wherein

said CIB (col.2, lines 42-47) includes: a user community ser (UCS) for each user of said

MCN (col.2, lines 47-52), wherein for a given user and associated UCS, a given

community is a member of the UCS if the given user is a member of the given

community (col.4, lines 57-67 & col.5, lines 1-20); an application community set (ACS)

for each application on said MCN, wherein for a given application and associated ACS,

a given community is a member of the ACS if the given application runs on behalf of a

user in the given community (col.5, lines 22-62); and an object set (OCS) (col.1, lines

30-35) for each object residing within said MCN (col.2, lines 52-62), wherein each OCS

is included in an ACS of a process which created it (col.5, lines 22-62); a processing

unit configured to receive a request for access to an object; consult said CIB responsive

to said request; permit access to said object in response to detecting said request is

from a first user; and a UCS of the first user is a superset of an object community set

(OCS) of said object (col.4, lines 56-67 & col.5, lines 1-20); deny access to said object

in response to detecting : said request is from the first user; and a UCS of the first is not

a superset of the an OCS of said object (col.2, lines 23-36): permit access to said object

in response to detecting: said request is from a process; and an ACS said process is a

superset of said OCS (col.5, lines 39-62); and deny access to said object in response to

detecting: said request is from said process; and an ACS of said process is not a

superset of an OCS of said object; wherein a given OCS comprises a first set of

communities, a given UCS is a superset of the given OCS if at least all of the set of

communities are also included in the given UCS, and a given ACS is a superset of the

given OCS if at least all of the first set of communities are also included in the ACS

(col.2, lines 23-62). However Miller did not explicitly disclose a computer network

coupled to the Multi-community node (MCN).

In the same field of endeavor Belani disclosed a computer network; and a multi-

community node (MCN) coupled to said computer network (col.4, lines 34-38).

At the time the invention was made it would have been obvious to one in the ordinary

skill in the art to incorporate a connection to computer network as disclosed by Belani to

a computer system of Miller in order to make the computer system more versatile and

scalable by having multiple clients/users connect to the system from various locations.

6.   As per claims 2, 11, 19 & 27 Miller-Belani disclosed the method of claim 1,

wherein said object is an operating system controlled resource (Miller, col.1, lines 30-34

& col.2, lines 23-27).

7.   As per claims 3, 12, 20 & 28 Miller-Belani disclosed the method of claim 2,

wherein said object is selected from the group consisting of a file system, a storage

volume, a directory, a file, a record, a memory region, a queue, a pipe, a socket, a port,

or an input/output device (Miller, col.1, lines 30-34).

8.   As per claims 4, 13, 21 & 29 Miller-Belani disclosed the method of claim 1,

wherein the initial owner of said object is the creator of said object (Miller, col.5, lines

39-62).

9.   As per claims 5, 14, 22 & 30 Miller-Belani disclosed the method of claim 1,

further comprising permitting an owner of said object to designate a first user as a new

owner of said object, in response to detecting a UCS of said first user is a superset of

said OCS (Miller, col.5, lines 39-62).

10.   As per claims 6, 15, 23 & 31 Miller-Belani disclosed the method of claim 1,

further comprising allowing a first process to change said OCS of said object to a subset

of said ACS of said first process, in response to detecting an owner of said first process

is an owner of said object and said ACS is a superset of said OCS (Miller, col.5, lines

39-62).

11.   As per claims 9, 17, 25 & 34 Miller-Belani disclosed the method of claim 8,

wherein said CIB further includes a creator and a current owner for each object residing

within said MCN (Miller, col.5, lines 39-62).

Response to Arguments

12.   Applicant's arguments filed 8/16/2007 have been fully considered but they are

not persuasive.

13.   Applicant argued that the prior art does not teach the limitations in the current

independent claims.

14.   Since the applicant has used specific terminologies in the claims, the examiner in

order to clarify the rejection and interpretation of the claims has shown these

terminologies as defined by the applicant in the specification.

Community Information Base (CIB) = Maintains associations between objects, users

and processes (Page.5 of applicant's specification).

User Community Set (UCS) = each user has a UCS which may be configured by a

trusted administrator into a database of user profiles (page.25, lines 11-12).

Object Community set (OCS) = Object may include file systems, storage volumes,

directories, files, memory regions, queues, pipes, sockets, input/output devices, or other

operating system controlled resources. Associated with each object is an OCS. Objects

are generally created by processes running on behalf of users. The objects' creator is a

user or user role on whose behalf the process that creates an object is running. In

addition to a creator, each object has an owner. An object's owner may initially be the

user who created the object. The owner may assign another user as owner. A user may

become an object owner if that user's UCS includes the OCS of the object. An object's

OCS is initially set by its creator (via a process running on behalf of the creator) and

must be included within the UCS of its creator and within the ACS of the process, which

created it (page.25, lines 17-26 of applicant's specification).

Application Community set (ACS) = each application process has an ACS. An

application process' ACS is initially set by the user who invoked it and may default to

the UCS of the invoker (page.25 of applicant's specification).

15.   Claim interpretation:

A computer system comprising: a Multi-community Node (MCN) comprises: a

community information base (CIB) wherein said CIB (col.2, lines 32-47) {Miller

describes access control mechanisms, that grant, revoke any deny authorization to

entities allowing easy implementation of separation of duties I.E it has an association

table or matrix through with it can determine which entity has what level of access}

includes: a user community ser (UCS) for each user of said MCN (col.2, lines 47-52)

{ Miller further elaborates on the access mechanism by disclosing a matrix that contains

user attributes pertaining to each user A.K.A rules names with their associated Boolean

expressions} also discloses that ; an application community set (ACS) for each

application on said MCN; and an object set (OCS) for each object (Please read col.1,

lines 30-35 and compare it with the definition of an object in the specification) residing

within said MCN (col.2, lines 52-62); a processing unit configured to receive a request

for access to an object; consult said CIB responsive to said request; permit access to said object in response to detecting said request is from a user; and a UCS of said user is a superset of an object community set (OCS) of said object (col.4, lines 56-67 & col.5, lines 1-20) { Miller discloses that security policies are concerned not only with which subject may obtain access to which objects, but also with the granting, revoking and denying of authorizations to and from users and groups. Given the set of authorizations for users and groups, some rules must be applied for deriving authorization for subjects. In general case, user may belong to more than one group. In assigning privileges to subjects acting on behalf of a user, one can choose to: 1. Have the subject operate with the union of privileges of all groups (Superset) to which the user belongs, as well as all his or her individual privileges. 2.Have the subject operate with the privilege of only one group at a time; 3. Allow the subject to choose to operate with its user's privileges or with the privileges of one of the groups to which its user belongs; and implement some other policy}; permit access to said object in response to detecting: said request is from a process; and an ACS said process is a superset of said OCS (col.5, lines 30-35 & 39-62) {Miller also discloses that user's access rights are also application dependent and the owner or multiple owner may have rights to delete and modify an object I.E in order to perform such actions the user has to access the object by a certain process that originally created that object}.

16.   Additionally applicant is advised that when reviewing a reference the applicants should remember that not only the specific teachings of a reference but also reasonable

inferences which the artisan would have logically drawn therefrom may be properly

evaluated in formulating a rejection. In re Preda, 401 F. 2d 825, 159 USPQ 342 (CCPA

1968) and In re Shepard, 319 F. 2d 194, 138 USPQ 148 (CCPA 1963). Skill in the art is

presumed. In re Sovish, 769 F. 2d 738, 226 USPQ 771 (Fed. Cir. 1985). Furthermore,

artisans must be presumed to know something about the art apart from what the

references disclose. In re Jacoby, 309 F. 2d 513, 135 USPQ 317 (CCPA 1962). The

conclusion of obviousness may be made from common knowledge and common sense

of a person of ordinary skill in the art without any specific hint or suggestion in a

particular reference. In re Bozek, 416 F.2d 1385, 163 USPQ 545 (CCPA 1969). Every

reference relies to some extent on knowledge of persons skilled in the art to

complement that is disclosed therein. In re Bode, 550 F. 2d 656, 193 USPQ 12 (CCPA

1977).

17.   Applicant argued that Miller does not disclose the amended claim limitations.

As to applicant's argument examiner has cited portions for miler that anticipates

applicant's amended limitations.

18.   Applicant argued that Miller fails to disclose access control to objects from

processes.

As to applicant's argument Miller disclosed that it is probably an application –dependent

choice whether an object can have more than one owner. Ownership policies are

sometimes implemented so that only the owner of an object has the right to (through a

process) delete or modify the object.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time

policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Asghar Bilgrami whose telephone number is 571-272-

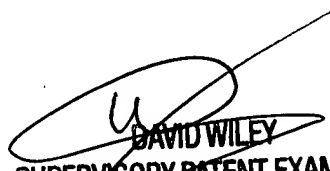3907. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on 571-272-3924. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

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system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AB

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